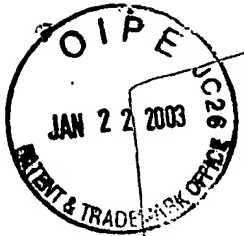


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IN RE APPLICATION OF: Elizabeth King, et al. :

APPLICATION NO.: 09/425,622

Examiner: J. Spear
Group Art Unit: 1615

FILING DATE: October 22, 1999

TITLE: Controlled-Release Pharmaceutical
Formulations

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited with the United States
Postal Service as First Class Mail in an
envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner
for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

this 15th day of January 2003

Sir:

By 

Response To Non-Final Office Action

This is in response to the non-Final Office Action dated July 16, 2002 in the
above-identified application, the term for response having been extended three (3)
months by including the appropriate fee and petition herewith.

In response to the Office Action, please make the following changes to the
application:

In the claims:

02 17 42. (Once Amended) A formulation as claimed in claim 41, wherein
the core further comprises a buffering agent.

SUB
02 14 45. (Once Amended) Cancel claims 44 and 45 without waiver or prejudice.

02 14 46. (Once Amended) A process for the production of a sustained-
release formulation comprising a cGMP PDE-5 inhibitor embedded in a matrix from
which it is released by diffusion or erosion, which comprises the steps of:

- (a) mixing the cGMP PDE-5 inhibitor with a matrix material, and pressing into
tablets;
- (b) forming a core comprising the cGMP PDE-5 inhibitor and then coating the
core with a release rate-controlling membrane; or
- (c) forming a core containing the cGMP PDE-5 inhibitor and then coating the
core with a coating impermeable to the cGMP PDE-5 inhibitor;